GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:943
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2003
REPLACEMENT OF DAM PROJECTS IN ASSAM
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to replace big dam projects like 2000 MW Sonamsiri Dam Project by small dam project in Assam;

(b) if so, whether the dam is in highly sensitive seismic zone with sedimentary rock formation which may pose serious threat to the dam; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) The Government have proposed to replace big dam projects namely Subansiri and Dihang by a cascade of smaller dam projects.

(b) & (c) The Project lies in Himalayan Region,which is highly sensitive seismic zone (Zone V) of India. The foundation for one of the projects, i.e. Lower Subansiri Project is weak sedimentary rock having poor rock characteristics, which require measures to be adopted for strengthening the foundation rock. While clearing the Detailed Project Report, the Central Water Commission has recommended additional investigations before actual construction so as to take care of low rock strength parameters and seismic conditions.